10/10/69

Dear Howard,

I am the captive of a perpetual-motion machine: the more work I get done the more work remains to be done. I'll reply to your letter of the 6th and enclosures as I read them, which is in the order in which they are in the envelope.

Your 12/3 to Dick. I think where the fire-escape man is concerned, though you'd "like to know where he's from and how he got up there" (with the likelihood of simple explanations, from employment inside the building and by merely putting his feet through the window), more significant is what he saw and whether or not he was ever interviewed. From the first I've believe two things: he had the best overall view and he saw something that shook him up.

12/6- stereo is very imaginative concept. Good luck. My hoped-for mean of getting slides has vapprized....Bone hit: Until you produce something concrete, I'm inclined to accept Dick's concept of the possible and probable. There is much work in this field I had done, very amateurishly and with professional help. Everything Dick said on such matters not only proved to be exactly what my own local experts told me but more, in every case, Dick was much more lucid. He has an excellent understanding of what can happen when a projectile hits bone. Wecht says the same thing, graphically.

Signing autopsy report: more than that they just signed it. They were present and had the Galloway law laid down. I'm pursuing supp further....I do doubt the xeroxes have to be from the original with masking. I think it more likely someone was foresighted and xeroxed in advance of giving to B. I have gone very far in this general area but it will have to await in-person communication. There are barely-visible technical reasons for my less conspiratorial interpretation....On where the bullet hit: I know, I am not theorizing....Dick is 100% right in saying the muscles changed their position. More important, so did the scapula (remember FM III).

Your 12/8- Can you assume pix taken after brain removed? What is your basis? It is logical that most pix taken before body toughed, others as work was going on...With the supp report, where I've now been assured the Archi has no original, no work papers, no notes, not distribution, etc., one of the things I'm working on is this. What happened to the Harper fragment? Where are the tests on it? I have had all the reports on this since Spring 66....Could 1.18" be the measurement accross an arc?...This is not only "thanks to Jones" Finck was in on that. Would you rephrase your underlined quote as you read it? I think this can be taken to say no more than that there was no readily identifiable characteristic, such as coning re intry. But if this is true, are they not saying there was a whole?...In writing me, remember I have no foundation in anatomy.

Your 12/7 to both- I await proof window was blacked in add explanation of reasons....You have my total sympathy on fire. I can write no other way and cannot take the time for rewriting...With FMs, when I read I'll comment. But remember, they are, now, and have been, books and they are published, within the meaning of the law and so accredited by it. FM dates to 8-9/67, FMIII to 1/69. And I have by no means despaired of publication. They are now asked for by a piblisher who I want to read COUP first, after he reads the four printed books, which I sent him two weeks ago and I've just heard from another publisher who is coming here next week, and there is the New York publisher who has been talking about contracting into a single volume- and they are also in Europe. It is rather than I just do not spend great effort on this now for I must complete II first. Off the top of my head, what I'd probably do is sit down some night and read this with the tape recorder nearby

and send you the tape you can later return. Credit is always a sticky thing. With the best intentions (which I know yours are), there are inevitable problems. In my own anxiety to credit, I have even reversed them in print. When you say, "There is still a chance with me", who do you think will publish your book? Have you something lined up? There are also other uses for which I may want to preserve some of my own work, one example being the trial I visualize in the suit we'll soon be filing. But, bridges cannot be crossed before being reached. I haven't time to read the work now, but as soon as there is a prospect of being able to do it without interruption, I will. Until then, I'm not looking at it, for I want to take it all at once, when the first part will be closer to recall when I reach the last. Prior to then, even if I get it later, I have no drawing or picture of the human skeleton to which I can refer. If you can send me one (I've asked others who have not responded) I can, perhaps, tell you whether your positioning of the rear torso wound is consistent with my new knowledge, which I will also show you when you are here. However, the signed material I showed you in confidence when you were he is approximately accurate.

I do not know when you contemplate being able to complete your work, but I believe it may be helpful to you (and to me) if you read either FMII if I have it completed by then or the file I have put aside for it if I haven't before you do the final draft. Certainly before you kake any submissions.

I've long since completed my analysis of Finck's N.O. testimony. I may see it as others do not, for I supplied the backgrounding for it. I'll not take time to read and correct it until I return to FMII. However, until then, I encourage you to believe he is ever sneakier than Dick has said, and that ever when he seems to be unbagging cats he may have dogs in the bag. I have never, in the many millions of words of testimony I've read on many subjects, seen any quite as proficiently evasive as his, as successfully deceptive, and I encourage you further to consider that he had this all figured out in advance and knew, pretty much, what he was doing and saying, that less of it may be blurting than appears to be the case. I have to admit respect for his unrivalled skills in this area. With the inflextions of the voice, this must have been even more persuasive in court.

Good luck,